



#TEAMTALK

INTERVIEW WITH HANNES WÖLFLING

Project management team

01. How did you end up at GEKA?

I visited the company on an open day.

02. What has your educational background been like?

My path to GEKA has been very positive. I finished vocational school at the top of my class and was awarded the state prize. I was second in my class when I completed my training to become a Bachelor Professional (CCI) of Plastic & Rubber Technology and Operations – and received the Meisterpreis ("Master's Award") for that achievement. I have also been granted a scholarship from the IHK (German Chamber of Industry and Commerce) to pursue an upcoming advanced course in technical business economics.

03. And what has your career at GEKA been like?

During my training period, I worked with a lot of different departments. I then spent a year in bottle production, on a three-shift rotation, and another year in injection moulding. I'm currently working in injection blow moulding in the process development department.

04. What has been your best moment at GEKA?

When I signed up to train as a process mechanic.

05. Which projects stand out in your memory as being particularly positive?

My best projects have been LASH CROWN and TOTAL TEASE by P&G. I had to work a lot of overtime on those projects and the customer invited me out for a meal as a thank you.

06. Women all over the world love our products. Has your job ever given you a little boost in that department? Have you scored some extra points?

Some women are pretty surprised at first, when I ask what mascara they use.

07. Have you tested any mascaras while you've been at GEKA?

Of course, out of curiosity, I honestly couldn't resist trying them out – to see what it is we're making here.

08. Your job in three words.

Fulfilling, enjoyable and enriching.

09. Would you call your job a dream job?

For my age, it can certainly be described as a dream job.

10. What has been your biggest challenge?

My toughest challenge at the moment is definitely the new plant. The year I spent in three-shift rotation was also a big challenge.

11. You like to run in your spare time and you've represented GEKA in a couple of races.

How do you prepare for these?

I've always tried to stay fit and I try to attend boxing training two or three times a week. But sometimes it is as simple as just putting on my running shoes and going out for a run after work.

12. Describe yourself in three words.

Optimistic, ambitious, determined.

13. A trend that is underestimated?

In my opinion, the trends within the company are mostly positive – even with the challenges of restructuring after the Sulzer acquisition. Outside the company, the trend toward becoming a throwaway society could present us with some new problems.

14. What are your recommendations for other employees?

Do not focus on negative influences at work but on the positives instead. Behind every problem is an opportunity – all you have to do is recognise it and take advantage of it.